

**KANEGASAKI SISTER CITY COMMITTEE**  
**BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 6, 2010**  
**4:00 PM Senior Center Alice Dowd Lounge**

**Members Present:** Amy Springer (Chair), Nancy Bess, Florence Boynton, Jule Dupre, Aaron Kropf, Helen MacMellon, Kathy Woods Masalski, Nancy Pagano, Yuko Takahashi

**Others:** Aaron Hayden, (Select Board Liaison),

**Members Absent:** Bill Hutchinson, Stephanie Joyce, Denise Boyd

**Minutes of September, 2010:** Accepted as read.

**Treasurer's Report:** Florence reported that there is \$1519.13 in the KSCC account at Town Hall.

**Amy's comments**

Amy thanked members for "pulling their weight" by working together to arrange the various elements of the upcoming November visit by the Mayor and other Kanegasaki officials.

**Invitations and Reservation Tracking for Amherst College Reception**

Over 100 invitations have been sent so far. In some cases we will have to send email invitations because we do not have current residential addresses. Nancy P. has had 16 returned by the Post Office as undeliverable as addressed. This is not surprising because our mailing lists come partially from old records. Seven people now have paid reservations. Kathy reported that Anne Prescott, new director of the The Five College Center for East Asian Studies, has agreed to follow past precedent and underwrite the costs of the reception for the Kanegasaki delegates and for herself and teachers in the Center's programs who were involved in Kanegasaki exchanges or activities. Kathy has been in email contact with the teachers and she is awaiting final confirmation about their numbers. (Kathy is waiting to hear whether any will be bringing guests, for whom they will pay the expected \$35.) She will keep Nancy P. informed.

Kanegasaki has received their invitation by email and the formal invitation has been sent by "snail mail". Amy will send an invitation to the Amherst College Japanese Language faculty.

Kathy and Nancy B. gave an update on how things will be handled at the reception:

- They await word from Aaron H. re how to handle billing for alcohol, (Aaron H. spoke to John Musante who has a solution in mind);
- Nametags will be available for all guests to complete for themselves;
- The reception will last an hour, and at 7 o'clock everyone will be ushered into a larger room to be seated at tables for the speeches. Following the speeches, glasses of champagne will be distributed by the servers for a formal toast or toasts.
- Details on the performances are to be "filled in" by Nancy P. and Aaron H.
- Kathy will provide Amy with wording so that in her remarks the FCCEAS and teachers can be briefly recognized for their contributions to the success of exchanges;
- A computer will be set up to show slides of the Kanegasaki student visits;
- Nancy B will coordinate effort with Nancy P. re numbers of attendees so that Nancy B. and Kathy can inform Greg at Amherst College of the numbers expected.
- Jule will bring KSCC flyers to the reception.

The banner should be at the Summit and Reception.

**Town Hall Summit**

Nancy P. suggested a format for the Kanegasaki delegation meeting with the Amherst officials that has been requested by the Mayor. It would be similar to the meeting she and Aaron H. were treated to when they went to Japan. Nancy has reserved the Town Room on Monday AM, November 8<sup>th</sup>, for this. She suggests a long table with the Mayor and

delegation plus interpreters on one side and the Town Manager, SB Chair, Emily Dickinson Homestead Director Jane Wald, Jones Library Director, KSCC Chair, Superintendent of Schools, Middle School Principal (Michael Hayes) on the other. There would be an agenda, refreshments, flowers, table clothes. Nancy B. will handle flowers and snacks. Nancy P. will provide table clothes (and drinks?) and transportation.

#### Agenda for Summit

- Jule, Amy, and Aaron K. and Helen will meet with the Superintendent and Middle School Principal prior to the Mayor's visit, to discuss the importance of sending Amherst students to Kanegasaki, and to see if how we might facilitate getting such a program established. It is understood that the KSCC cannot undertake such a program ourselves, but that we can help facilitate matters with the middle school. We will also talk with people currently involved in running international trips within the school system for ideas on how such programs are funded and organized.
- For sure there is a desire to have the Sister City relationship become more active. The Mayor has mentioned an interest in direct exchanges between citizens. We will try to get a sense from Mr. Takahashi of what citizens or groups both towns might have an interest in exchanges. Some ideas from the Committee were: teachers, librarians, environmentalists from the Hitchcock Center and possibly firefighters.

#### **Mayor's Schedule Discussion Notes**

Nancy P., Aaron H., Helen and Yuko will pick up the Japanese delegation in Boston and give them a short tour there before driving to Amherst. Nancy P. has made arrangements to rent a 12 passenger van from Potter's Auto and Truck Rental in North Amherst.

The Mayor wants to see the Emily Dickinson Homestead and the Jones Library (Tevis is willing to give a presentation in Special Collections) as well as UMass and Amherst College. Nancy P. suggests that the Amherst History Museum might be of interest.

It is hoped that many people will take pictures all during the visit of the Kanegasaki delegation both for our own files and to share with Kanegasaki.

Amy and Aaron H. will do a press release.

Yuko announced that Mr. Takahashi has confirmed there were be four people in the party, but she doesn't know who the further person is yet.

**-Meeting Adjourned at: 5:38 PM**

**-Next Meeting of full Committee: October 20th, 2010 at 4 PM at the Bangs Center.**

**-Respectfully submitted by Nancy Pagano (staff liaison)**